

Docket No. 41711/SAH/X2
Application No. 09/886,930

Based on the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request entry of the present amendment and examination and allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Encl. Claims Marked to Show Amendments

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

64. {The system of claim 61} **(Amended)** **A user authentication system comprising:**
an edge node;
an interface on the edge node for receiving an authentication information from an end-node via a LAN link for verification; and
an authentication server coupled to the edge node, wherein the edge node forwards the authentication information to the authentication server and the authentication server verifies the authentication information and provides a notification to the edge node that the authentication information has been verified, whereupon the edge node is authorized to provide LAN switching functions for packets in data flows involving the end-node, wherein the LAN switching functions include performing LAN media translations on the packets.

108. **(Amended)** The system of claim 106, further comprising an authentication server coupled to the edge node wherein the edge node transmits the second user information to the authentication server, and the {second} authentication server verifies the second user information.

114. **(Amended)** The method of claim {86} **113,** further comprising the step of performing LAN media translations within the edge node on packets transferred by the end-node through the edge node after the second {comparison} **verification.**